Henry A.-Parsons, Jr., - - Editor.

THURSDAY, DEC. 14TH., 1876

A Horrible Holocaust.

THE BURNING OF A THEATER CAUSES GREAT LOSS OF LIFE.—THEE HUND-RED PERSONS PERISH IN THE FIRE. -SICKENING SCENES OF THE DISASTER.—FEAREUL STRUGGLES WITH THE FLAMES!—WHOLE FAM-ILIES PERISH.

Theater has proved to be terrible. Thirty-three dead bodies have been taken from the ruins and placed in the morgue, and fifteen more are suppesed to be in the theater. Most of those who perished were in the dress the awful eslamity which has befallen the circle, where escape was cut off by the burning of the stairs. They were all suffocated.

A STILL LATER ACCOUNT-150 LIVES LOST.

Brooklyn, December 6.-It is now estimated that one bundred and fifty lives were lost by the fire at the Brooklyn Theater last night. Sixty-five bodies have been removed from the ruins. All that remains of the Brooklyn Theater is a smouldering heap of ruins. Firemen and police are actively at work in search of the charred remains of the poor people who lost their lives in the vain effort to escape from smoke and flames which surrounded them.

THE SCENE DURING THE FIRE was a terrible one. It was a desperate rush and struggle for life, and the bodies of girls, women and children and many of the men, who were unable to reach the doors, are now being removed from the ruins, while friends and relatives of the missing persons are crowding into the station-house, tearfully examining hats, shawls, and other portions of clothing which have been picked up by the police. When the fire had been sufficiently subdued to permit men to work among the ruins, the search for bodies was commenced.

BODIES PILED UP IN HEAPS. There is no doubt that the auditorium and galleries had been cleared, and those who perished went down with the flooring in the lobbies, for the bodies of the victims were found this morning piled up in heaps within a dozen feet of the door, most of them burned beyond any hope of recognition. To the extent of a dozen feet from the door the flooring of the lobbies remain perfect. On reaching this the runs, which are in the rear of several brick buildings, are presented. Just at the end of this passage way the bodies are being

TAKEN OUT FROM THE CELLAR, a depth of fifteen or twenty feet. Ropes are attached to the remains, and they are drawn up and placed in nine o'clock, fifty bodies of men, and nearly sixty feet in diameter. The out. Police are necessary to keep the thousands of spectators who throng the streets at a good distance from the scene of the disaster.

MURDOCH, THE ACTOR MISSING. Among the missing is H. A. Murdoch, the actor. It is said that after there he must have suffocated by the smoke and perished.

Miss Kate Claxton and Mrs Farren rushed out on to Johnston street in 1877. their stage costumes and were saved. NAMES OF EIGHTY'SIX MISSING PER-SONS REPORTED.

The names of eighty-six missing persons have been reported at the Station House, and it is believed in some instances whole families have perished. Four undertakers' wagons have been busily engaged all morning hauling . away the dead. 'The full horror of the sickening scene will not be fully developed until latter in the day.

ORIGIN OF THE FIRE. The Brooklyn Argus, in an extra describing the terrible scene, says: The fire started in the flies on the left side of the stage. A forked flame was seen creeping along the left hand corner of readers-a body now not far from a million the secnery. This was followed by the noise of shifting scenery, and a few seconds later the audience of served the confusion among actors and actresses on the stage. The fire spread rapidly and the alarm become general. The cry of "fire" thrilled the audi- those who thrive by plundering the Treas ence, and all rose to their feet. J. B. Studley, an actor, stepping to the footlights, said there was no fire, and urging all to keep their seats. Many did so, but only for a few seconds.

the rights of the people against the su croachments of unjustified power.

The price of the daily Sux will be 55

THE FLAMES SPREAD RAPIDLY. Miss Claxton and Mrs. Farran showed great self possession, and remained on the stage until the scenery at the left was completely licked up by the flames. They and other members of the company left not a moment too soon. The excitement of the audience was manifested in a stampede, such as never before was witnessed in Brooklyn. The panic became general before the actors left the stage. A wild rush was made for the loors; women shricked, struggled and fainted, men plunged in mad terror overseats, and

FOUGHT THEIR WAY TO THE DOOR like wild beasts. The aisles were blocked, and as the fire danced and hissed through the combustible machinery and darted out over the heads of the orchestra, the demoralization became complete. In two minuets the stage was one mass of flame. The heat was intense, and many who occupied seats nearest the stage left the schorehing heat and sank helpless to the floor, and were dragged out in an is solicited. insensible condition. Mrs. Farran albudes to the panic as something horri. Sept. 21s 1876-3m.

ble to witness and impossible to describe. It is believed that a number of the employees lost their lives.

THE FURY OF THE FLAMES.

If every bit of scenery had been drenched in kerosene the fire could not have spread more rapidly nor furiously. Even before any fire engine had responded, the auditorium was a sea of fire. Flames broke through the roof and gathering force by this event, shot up into the air, carrying pieces of scenery to a distance of half a mile. In ten minutes the fire had spread to every part of the theater. The entire block, it was thought, must be des-Brooklyn, December 6.-The loss of troyed. The Argus building and Postlife by the burning of the Brooklyn office were threatened with destruction. At midnight the fire was at its height. The great auditorium was a volcano of fire. The roof had been scattered to the winds in cinders and

flame.

city of Brooklyn in the destruction of its principal theatre by fire and consequent loss of life has not yet been realized. Enough is known, however, to make it certain that the catastrophe ranks among the most fital of the kind ever recorded, According to the statements of all parties who profess to know anything as to the origin of the fire, it began on the stage. The business manager, Mr. Rogers, says a piece of canvas, out of which trees, etc., are mrde was broken from its fastenings and hung from the files immediately over one of the border lights, near the centre of the stage. The canvass had begun to smoulder and the paint on it to crack be and the carpenter was directed to ascend to one of the groves and remove the dangerous object. He could barely reach it with hi hand and drew it hastily up. The rapid motion through the air of the half ignited and highly inflamable canvas caused it to burst into flame, which rapidly spread to adjoining material. All efforts to extinguish the fiames were abortive and the carpente had to retire to save his own life. Thelseene in the gallery after the atarm of fire wa raised is described as something harrible

even to contemplate. Up till noon to-day 315 bodies had been removed. The mortality will probably reach 350 persons. Of these fifty-nine are identified, some by remnants of clothing remaining others by watches, chains and such articles, but few by their features. The actors Claud Burroughs and Harry S. Murdoch, are among the identified.

This afternoon a number of men will be set to work to clear away all the wreck in the auditorium. Hitherto their labors has been chiefly confined to the space formerly occupied by the lobby and stage, and it is feared that when careful search is made in the auditorium the bodies of a good many men who leaped in their frenzy from the gallery will

be discovered. New York, Dec. 8th .- Brooklyn is literally walking in the valley of the shadow of death. Funerals of such of the victims of the theatre disaster as have been indentified are taking place, and through the streets in every part of the city beaases are moving bearing the remains to the cemeteries. About thirtyfive men are at work on the ruins, and it is hoped that the full extent of the calamity will be definitely assertained within the next twenty-four hours. They have not yet succeeded in uncovering the dress circle, and it is therefore still uncertain how many, if any of the spectators perished.

The public funeral of the unindentified dead will take place on Saturday instead of Sunday as previously stated. Memorial services, however, will be held Sunday. The procession will move at 1 o'clock The services in the cemetery will consist of prayers, addresses and singing by choral societies, All places of business will be closed between rows in the passage. Up to half past the hours of land 3. The lot in the cemetery is on the summit of an elevation it is circular, women and children have been taken ground was presented by the Cemetery As sociation and the plan for the arrangement of the coffins was made by Comptroller Perry. Acircular trench fourteen feet wide will be dug completely around the inside of the circumference, and this will leave the circle of the plot for a monument. In the trench the bodies will be laid with their feet towards the centre an as close as may be necces sary. All the coffins are to be alike. They trying to quiet the fears of the panie- will be plain but tasteful in construction, the stricken rudience he went up to his only ornament being a double row of dressing room to get his clothes, and diamond-headed tacks. It is supposed that not more than 100 vehicles will be needed.

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NEW YORK. 1877.

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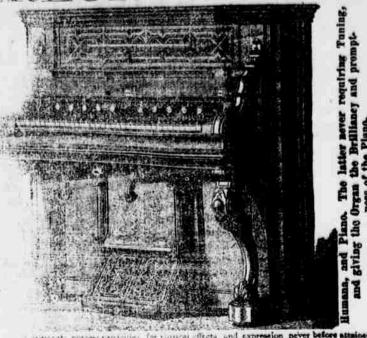
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